

broadsheet

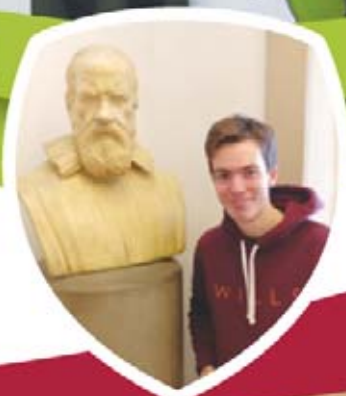
Summer 2019

Celebrating Award Winning GreenBean

Young Entrepreneurs
Win 'North West
Company of the Year'



Mr Meadows
Retires
p.7



Florence Trip
p.16



Abbey Gate College

“Building resilience and experiencing awe and wonder.....”

The summer term for many pupils signals the end of a key stage in their educational life, dominated by testing of one sort or another.

It is an anxious time for all, and therefore it is so important that we teach our pupils that this is just a measurement of a point in time and that they are not defined by the examinations that they pass or the grades they receive. So much credence is placed on a grading system which does little to equip them with the skills needed to be happy and successful in later life.

In response to this very dilemma, we created ‘out of classroom’ activities across both sites to encourage resilience and allow pupils to experience awe and wonder. If we remove joy from the classroom, we distance our pupils from effective information processing and long-term memory storage. Instead of taking pleasure from learning, anxiety, stress and boredom can easily creep in and there is a loss of engagement. Throughout ‘Activity Week’, we deliver a wealth of activities to stimulate conversation, create interest, allow pupils to try new things, knowing that some they will like and some they will not. We encourage them to experience new activities, all with the hope that this type of education sparks interest, discussion, inquisitiveness and passion. If we allow and nurture passion, it often develops into action that can result in change and true innovation.

Watching our younger pupils’ faces whilst pond dipping recently was magical, their amazement at finding newts, something they had not encountered before, was a true experience of awe. I was also invited by one of our Foundation pupils to go and sit in the willow den in the outdoor play area with her. It was a magical moment as she told me how she loved the quiet and watching the birds in the trees from there, then in a flash, she was off playing in one of the learning zones with the rest of her friends.

From our youngest Muddy Puddle walkers, to our Year 3 and 4 pupils who learnt how to cope with Lake District rain and our older Duke of Edinburgh’s Award participants who experienced too much heat whilst navigating themselves across difficult terrain with heavy rucksacks, our ‘out of classroom’ education presents opportunities for pupils to reflect and learn about themselves and how they react and cope with new challenges. All hugely important life skills.

Our staff are also willing to take themselves out of their comfort zones. Huge congratulations to Dr Ball, Dr Lloyd-Johnson, Mr Meadows, Mr Rowlands, Mr Stockley and Mr Horsefield for successfully running the Chester Half Marathon in aid of our chosen charity this year, the Trauma Response Network. They did themselves proud once again.

The Infant and Junior School Sports Day was incredible and the pupils really threw themselves into competing in all of the races, with lots of friendly, competitive support of their Houses being shown. Not everyone can win, yet those who were last over the line were cheered on and praised by their peers and parents just as much as the winners.

I hope that you enjoy reading this edition of Broadsheet. All that is left to do is to wish good luck to all of our examination candidates. I look forward to sharing their successes in August with you.

To our A Level students who will be leaving us, our thoughts and good wishes go with you and we look forward to keeping in touch with you as members of our Alumni.

For now, I would like to wish you all a wonderful summer, and I look forward to welcoming you all back in September.

Mrs Pollard
Headmistress



Contents

P3
GreenBean



- 3 **GreenBean**
Abbey Gate College Students Crowned Young Enterprise 'North West Company of the Year'
- 5 **Alumni Chapel Choir**
Choir give first performance at St. Oswald's
- 5 **Chapel Choir**
30th year of performing at St. Paul's
- 6 **Emily Performs at Wembley**
Ex-pupil sings at the opening of the FA Cup Final
- 6 **An Amazing Experience**
Pupils perform in Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Joseph*
- 7 **A Fond Farewell**
We say goodbye to Deputy Head Mr Meadows
- 8 **Wellbeing and Positive Mental Health**
College commits to the campaign
- 9 **Art News**
Latest creativity from art pupils
- 10 **Photography Competitions**
Calling all photographers!
- 11 **Upper School Ball**
Year 11 and Sixth Formers enjoy a Las Vegas casino themed evening
- 13 **Infants & Juniors News**
Stories from recent events
- 15 **Visit to Co-op's Head Office**
Business students tour the Manchester offices
- 15 **Rowton Moor Visit**
Pupils take to the historic Rowton battlefields
- 16 **Eswatini 2020**
Meet the next expedition team
- 16 **Florence Trip**
News of the mathematically inspired visit to Florence
- 17 **Duke of Edinburgh's Awards**
All the latest from the Gold and Silver expeditions in North Wales
- 18 **Staff Farewells**
Goodbye and good luck to teachers and staff
- 18 **Infants & Juniors Sports Day**
Fun and games report
- 19 **Read for Good**
Pupils raise money for the worthy cause
- 19 **ESB Qualifications**
Key Stage 3 complete their English Speaking Board exams
- 20 **Half Marathon**
Staff get running for TRN Charity
- 20 **Skiing News**
A great day's racing at the NWSFS Championships
- 21 **Year 9 Football**
Boys compete in the Chester and District Final
- 22 **Equestrian**
Squad achieve second place at Flagship event
- 22 **Show Jumping**
Red Morgan wins International Pony Grand Prix in France
- 23 **Chester and District Minors**
Outstanding performances from pupils
- 23 **Rounders**
Girls beat King's School team
- 23 **Cricket**
Zarak Khan selected for the U13 Cheshire Youth Cricket Festival

23
Zarak Khan



Abbey Gate College

12



15



17



19



18



22





Abbey Gate College Students Crowned Young Enterprise 'North West Company of the Year'

Talented students from Abbey Gate College have risen to the ultimate business challenge to be crowned 'North West Company of the Year' in the regional finals of the Young Enterprise Company Programme

The winning team, 'GreenBean', battled it out against eight other teams from Cheshire, Cumbria, Greater Manchester and Lancashire, who over the course of the year have all set up and run successful companies. The team also received the award for 'Best Presentation'.

'GreenBean', who previously won the County final, developed the 'BabyBean', a mini bean bag made from recyclable materials which can be used as a stress aid and to assist dexterity.

The competition held by Young Enterprise, a national charity that supports young people to successfully earn and manage money, celebrates talented young entrepreneurs changing the face of business. It requires students to make all the decisions about their business, from deciding the company name and product, to creating a business plan, managing their finances and selling their products directly to the public.

'GreenBean' was one of only fourteen teams invited to compete at the 'UK Company of the Year' award ceremony held in London in June. The team performed exceptionally well and were a credit to the College. They won 'Best Presentation' and 'Best Trade Stand'. The overall winner will go on to represent the UK at the 'Junior Achievement Company of the Year' final taking place in Lille, France in July with President Macron in attendance.

Jasper Naylor, Managing Director of GreenBean, said: "We were delighted to win the regional final with our BabyBean product and were excited to represent the North West in London."

Teacher of Business & Economics and Young Enterprise Coordinator, Kevin Bailey added: "The students performed exceptionally well to achieve the North West Company of the Year. They have a lovely product underpinned with great business values and they were excited about representing Abbey Gate College at the national final and showcasing their product."



The Story Behind GreenBean

Our business was set up in October and consists of 9 Sixth Form students, all taking on different business roles.

Our first challenge was to come up with a product idea. We settled on a hand held bean bag, called **BabyBean**, which is a multi-purpose dexterity toy for young and old to help improve flexibility in the hands.

The bean bag is made from re-cycled fabric (thanks to The Stripes Company for helping us with this) and it is filled with second life plastic – we wanted to differentiate our product from the competition and we believe in caring for the environment!

Once we had our idea and had sourced raw materials we set about getting the product manufactured. We are using a professional seamstress to manufacture it for us and we believe it is a fantastic product.

In March we presented our idea at the Cheshire and Warrington Final to a panel of judges, and were delighted to be awarded Company of the Year and Best Presentation Award.

As a result we represented the region at Lancaster University in the North West Finals in May, where we were thrilled to win Best Presentation and North West Company of the Year 2019! We then headed to London in June for the National Finals.

We are very grateful to Sarah Chalenor from Barclays who has worked with us during the year.

BabyBean is available to buy from reception at the Senior School. Visit our website www.greenbeanye.com and follow us on **Instagram and Twitter @ greenbeanye**.

Thank you from

Jasper Naylor - MD
Joe Watkins - Marketing Director
Oli Hall - Production Director
Elliot Anthony - AMD
Molly Owen - Sales Director
Meg Duffy - HR Director
Tom Gill - FD
Laura Mount - Digital Director
Zoe Harrimen - Admin Director





Abbey Gate College Alumni Chapel Choir Give First Performance

On Sunday 2 June, Abbey Gate College Alumni Chapel Choir met for the first time to perform Evensong at St Oswald's Parish Church under the Direction of Stewart Smith.

The Organ was played by Philip Rushforth (1984-91) and the service was led by the Rev Canon Ian Davenport. The choir sang music by Stanford, Parry and Rose. Members of the choir travelled from all over the country for the event, from as far as Glasgow, south London and Lincoln. It was good to see ex-staff, family and friends in the congregation.

Chapel Choir Perform at St Paul's Cathedral for 30th Year

Abbey Gate College Chapel Choir were honoured to perform Evensong under the world-famous dome at St Paul's Cathedral on Easter Monday.

For the 30th consecutive year, the 45 members of the choir performed in one of the world's most beautiful buildings to a congregation of over 800.

Conducted by Head of Music, Mr Andrews, the choir performed pieces including 'Canticles in D Major' by George Dyson and Balfour Gardiner's 'Evening Hymn'.

Mr Andrews said: "The choir were professional in both their singing and conduct, and the standard was incredibly high. The pupils were unfazed by the vast space and eight second echo within the centuries old building. It is testament to their ability that they were able to cope so admirably with the challenges."



Ex-pupil Performs at Wembley

Congratulations to ex-pupil Emily Burnett of opera duo Belle Voci, on her stunning performance at the FA Cup Final.

Belle Voci rose to stardom after making it to the final of ITV's The Voice UK in 2018.

Emily said: "So, so happy. The most incredible experience of our lives! And it all started in Abbey Gate College Chapel Choir!"

Emily Burnett below left



An Amazing Experience

Earlier this year, aspiring actors, Francesca Ward (Year 11) and Cara Maciver (Year 7) performed alongside professional actors in Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice's 'Joseph and The Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat' at Pavilion Theatre Rhyl and StoryhouseLive.

Fran said: "This was my first taste of the professional stage and as an aspiring actor it was an incredible feeling working with the pros and seeing how the shows we watch are put on from the point of view of one of the actors."

A cathartic, unforgettable experience."



A Fond Farewell

After 19 years at Abbey Gate College, Deputy Head and History Teacher, Mr Meadows has announced his retirement at the end of the summer term.

We wish him well and thank him for his unswerving support, dedication and true stewardship of the posts that he has held.

Before he leaves us, we asked Mr Meadows to reflect on his teaching career and find out how he plans to spend his retirement:

- *What is your fondest memory of Abbey Gate College?*
Working with dedicated staff and ambitious pupils at a wonderful school.
- *What is the funniest thing to happen to you in your teaching career?*
While playing one of the ugly sisters in a staff pantomime Cinderella's slipper became irretrievably caught up in my long blond wig thus causing complete chaos on the stage.
- *Why did you choose to become a teacher?*
Having completed a History degree and not knowing what to do next my father, who was a Headmaster, suggested I should do a PGCE. On completing the course I made 2 applications and was offered a job at my first interview.
- *What will you miss the most about Abbey Gate College?*
The camaraderie of working with like minded people.
- *Did you have a teacher that inspired you?*
My House Master, Mr DV Jones, a modern linguist and talented rugby player & coach, who unfortunately died while only in his mid 30s.
- *Which period of history do you enjoy teaching the most and why?*
For many years it has been 19th & 20th century Russian History which has allowed me to work with some highly able Sixth Formers.
- *If you weren't a teacher what would you be and why?*
I would love to work as a fishing guide in New Zealand or Alaska. I have a passion for fly fishing and enjoy the great outdoors.
- *Over the last 19 years what is the biggest change you have seen at Abbey Gate College?*
Undoubtedly the all-consuming nature of a day at work – life used to be a lot simpler!
- *How do you plan on spending your retirement?*
Time with my family, fly fishing with the hope of catching an occasional salmon, dog walking, gardening, DIY – I will be busy!



College Commits To Whole-School Campaign to Support 'Wellbeing' and Positive Mental Health

Abbey Gate College has successfully trained 84% of its staff in the internationally accredited adult two-day Mental Health First Aid course and half day 'Mental Health Aware' course.

The MHFA England training raises employee awareness of mental ill health conditions and teaches practical skills to spot triggers and symptoms. Those trained have a better understanding of where to find information and professional support and have more confidence in helping individuals experiencing mental ill health.

As part of a whole school, holistic wellbeing strategy, the College are committed to actively promoting good mental, emotional and physical wellbeing ultimately to empower all pupils and staff to thrive and to be the best version of themselves. The staff also have expertise in identifying mental health issues amongst its pupils and staff to provide early intervention.

In addition to the MHFA England training, staff at the College through a Staff Wellbeing Day have been offered health checks, wellbeing workshops, reflexology sessions, and Pilates classes to learn more about complementary therapies to support physical health, mental health and emotional wellbeing. Evidence shows that complementary therapies and exercise help stress recovery, rest and reflection all of which can strengthen resilience.

The College plans to continue to hold an annual 'Wellbeing Day' (for both pupils and staff) with the normal timetable being replaced with a day filled with talks and activities themed around wellbeing and positive mental health. These activities focus on students building self-awareness and encourage them to feel confident in accessing support.

The College is working on embedding a culture with an ethos where positive mental health is regarded as the responsibility of all. Sixth Form pupils and parents have been given the opportunity to attend the MHFA England 'Mental Health Aware' course with positive feedback. The joined up approach is aimed to pass on knowledge and support to pupils.

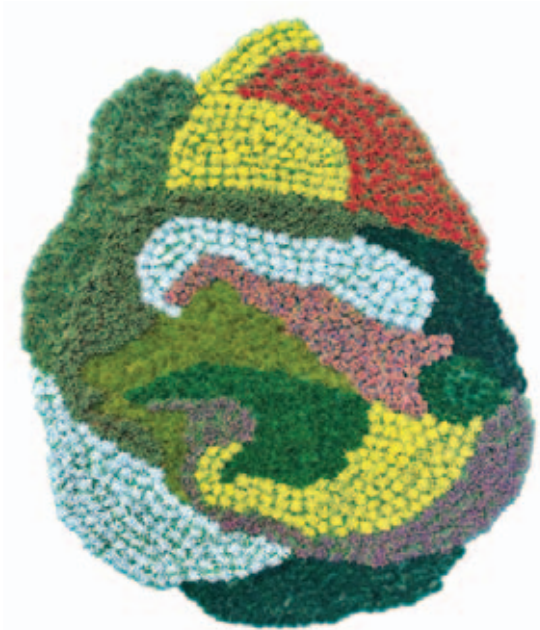
Headmistress, Mrs Pollard said: "We know from vital research that 75% of mental health issues start before the child turns 18 so it's crucial that we give them all the skills we can to recognise how they're feeling and how best to deal with it in a way that suits them. Pupil and Staff wellbeing is on our agenda for the long-term commitment to this campaign. Providing a supportive work environment is paramount in helping staff ultimately be the best version of themselves, this can only have a positive outcome for the pupils."



ART news

A selection of artwork from our young artists

Year 12



Year 8



Year 10



Year 11



You're a Potter Harry!

The Art Department recently entered a number of Year 9 pupils' work into the Cheshire dot-art Schools competition.

Huge congratulations go to Harry Green on coming 1st with his beautiful mixed media wire and ceramic piece. He will exhibit alongside other finalists at StoryhouseLive from 28 June - 12 July. Congratulations also go to Lucy Shutler and Ella Stockton who came 2nd and 3rd.



The Art Department Goes Potty!

The Art Department has an exciting new addition - a potter's wheel! We already have a kiln and often work with hand-building processes, however this creates a whole new, more professional dimension to what we can offer our pupils.

We are very excited to be able to bring this beautiful, traditional process into the KS4 and KS5 curriculum. Thank you to the PTFA for their ongoing support and providing the funds for this fantastic resource.



Photography Competitions

Having been inspired by the wonderful images that Year 7 and 8 have been producing in Digital Photography, we wanted to see how good the rest of you are!

The competitions are open to ALL - Year 7 to U6 and all who work at Abbey Gate College. They will run on a fortnightly basis and the winning images will be displayed around the College and prizes awarded.

The photographs can be old images taken on any type of camera or mobile, but they must be taken by YOU! No selfies or obvious pictures of people please.

The themes will include:

- Pets / Animals
- Sport
- Food / Drink
- Nature
- Landscapes
- Holidays (Christmas etc.)
- Colour
- Technology (Cars, machines)

Submission details will be on the VLE and posters around the College.

ABBEY GATE
Upper School
BALL



Infants and Juniors NEWS

Events and stories from the Infants and Juniors

1 Celebrating Science

The Infant and Junior School children took part in British Science Week, a ten-day celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths with some fantastic results.

Alongside extra science lessons all week, there was a workshop with More Able and Talented (MAT) children to design and build a dragster and an investigation to see if there is a relationship between the colour of a party popper and the force needed to pop it. Sixth Form students taught the Infants about the solar system and Foundation, Year 1 and 2 enjoyed a visit to Techniquet Glyndŵr.

2 Year 4 March Back in Time to Roman Chester

Year 4 spent the day in Chester learning about the people who built the famous Roman city some 2000 years ago.

The children marched around the city behind a 'Centurion' in military formations wearing Roman armour. At the amphitheatre they were taught different defence positions using their shields and a handful of Latin phrases that the crowds would have chanted.

At the Grosvenor Museum the children handled artefacts from the Roman period and dabbled with ingredients to make a typical Roman meal for a hungry soldier.

3 Transport

As part of their topic on transport Foundation pupils went on a trip to Chester where they experienced 4 different types of transport.

As well as the minibus ride they also got to travel on a boat, open top bus and a miniature train. On the boat trip they saw rowing boats, sailing boats and many different species of birds. This was followed by a trip on an open top bus. The children were fascinated to see Chester from a new height and loved seeing all of the Tudor black and white buildings. After lunch the children enjoyed a ride on the miniature train in Grosvenor Park. On their walk back to the bus they learnt more about the history of Chester from an archaeological dig taking place in the park. They were shown animal bones and pieces of pottery as well as watching the archaeologists at work.

4 Danny Jones Memorial Cup

In March, Franklin Jones, Year 1 presented the trophies at his father's memorial football tournament.

More than one hundred children from many Chester primary schools took part in the annual football tournament in memory of football coach, Danny Jones.

Abbey Gate College's Year 5 and 6 team were runners up having put in a fantastic performance to make it through to a thrilling final.

5 Une Bonne Expérience!

In March, Year 6 set off for their annual trip to France. This year returning to Chateau du Broutel.

The experience immersed the children in French language, local culture and cuisine. Trips included the local supermarket, a traditional sweet shop, a chocolate factory and a very wild and windy trip to the beach.

The children loved the opportunity to shop and haggle at the market and though sweets and handmade chocolates were popular purchases, snails and frogs' leg tasting is always a highlight on this trip. Cela a été une bonne expérience pour tous les étudiants.

6 Onions recount - Biology is Fun

In May Year 1 got to experience a lesson in a 'real science lab' at the Senior School.

All the children had a wonderful time learning about plant cells, how to use a microscope and thoroughly enjoyed working with the Sixth Formers. The children cannot wait for another lesson in the lab.

"First I put my gloves on and I put my safety glasses on. I saw the onion cell wall. When I had finished looking at it I had to draw it. Then we looked through the microscope and saw a fly's leg, a bee's tummy and a fly's wing." - Amélie Alford

"I put a drop of iodine on the onion skin then I put a mini slide on the iodine and then I put it under the microscope and it looked like coke. After, I looked at a butterfly's wing and a fly's wing. It was fun!" - Mary Brady

7 Junior Athletics Team Compete at ISA Regional Athletics Tournament

The junior athletics team travelled to Manchester Athletics Arena for the ISA Regional Athletics Tournament. 30 schools took part in a very busy afternoon of track and field events.

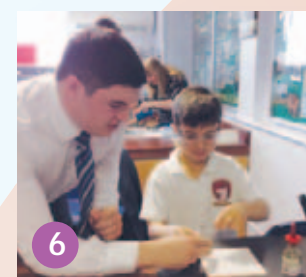
Notable achievements were: Felix Hodgkinson, Year 5 who won the U11 Cricket Ball throw with a throw of 40+m; Charlotte Leatherbarrow, Year 4 finished 3rd in the U10 girl's long jump; Evelyn Baty, Year 3 finished 6th in the U9 60m; Sam Morley, Year 4 finished 6th in the U10 60m; the U9 girls and U10 boys both finished 8th in their 4x100m relays.

8 Our 'AmaSing' Choir

In March the Infant and Junior School was buzzing with excitement when the AmaSing choir climbed aboard the minibuses and headed to The Storyhouse to perform in concert. Pupils, aged from 5 to 11, had been practising a variety of songs for several weeks and polishing up both words and dance moves.

The children were a credit to the College with their enthusiastic renditions of such varied repertoire as 'Reach for the Stars', 'Lean on Me' and 'The Palm Oil Conga'. They had also worked with groups of students from Chester University to create some very moving pieces on the subject of dementia and the plight of refugees, which were performed on the night.

Once again, our pupils rose to the occasion and impressed teachers, parents and a wider audience with their excellent behaviour and terrific singing skills. Bravo!



Business Students Visit Co-op's Head Office

Year 10 GCSE Business students visited the Co-op's Head Office in Manchester in April to gather an understanding of how the business operates as a whole and witness the theory taught in lessons being brought to life.

The pupils started their day with an impressive tour of 1 Angel Square, a 15 storey energy saving building where more than 3000 Co-op employees work together. They then had an overview of the business, which has been running since 1844, delivered to them by Craig Noonan, Head of Food Retail PR. The morning finished with an introduction to Co-op's marketing agenda from Amanda Jennings, Director of Marketing Engagement, which gave the pupils a fascinating insight into the latest developments.

In the afternoon, the students worked in teams to come up with ideas and suggestions of how they could increase footfall and improve trading plans for the upcoming festivals the Co-op will be working at this year. The business branched out and had their first festival pop-up shops in 2018 at Live Nation festivals – Latitude, Download, Reading and Leeds. Customers were often to be found dancing in the aisles at 2am as they had an in-store DJ keeping the party going! The pupils created a variety of mood boards on how they could improve plans further and presented them back to the team. One of the best ideas included introducing a neon glow in the dark raving carrier bag!

A huge thank you must go to Amanda Jennings, Catherine Sutton and her team for all the hard work that was put into creating a memorable day for all involved.



History Trip to the Battlefields of Rowton Moor

Year 8 took to the fields surrounding Waverton again in March to investigate the crucial battle of Rowton Heath.

Within a mile or so of the College, it was here, in 1645, that King Charles' cavalry fought its last important encounter of the Civil War. To begin with, the Royalists had the upper hand, but as the day progressed and Charles' indecision continued, the battle drifted back to Hoole where the King watched his last hopes of winning shattered against the might of the Parliamentary army.

Having seen the scars of battle on Waverton church, and after simulating ambushes and battlefield mauls, the pupils headed back to Chester. Here they could begin to get a picture of what life was like in the besieged port. The breach in the walls next to the amphitheatre gave a good insight into how the city as a whole, women and children included, rallied to its defence for months after the King had left.

This little known struggle represents fantastic history on our very doorstep!



Meet our Eswatini 2020 team!



In summer 2020 the team are off to Eswatini (formerly known as Swaziland) to take part in an expedition.

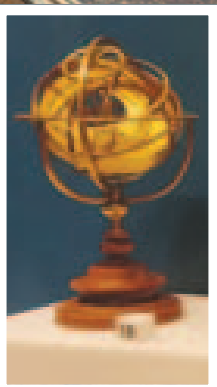
As part of the experience the team will undertake a building project at Mlinizini Primary School, a feeder school to the Mlinizini Secondary School which Abbey Gate College already has a very successful partnership with. The team will be helping to build a library, office and meeting room for the Head and teaching staff. The team have already started their fundraising.

If you would like to join the group in 2020 there are still some places available. Also the team are looking for sponsors and raffle prizes. If you are interested in knowing more about this incredible experience, please contact Mrs Parker.

Mathematics Trip to Florence

"One of the best trips I have ever been on!" – Alex Williams Year 10

"Everything was stunning, both mathematically and visually." – Luke Burnett U6



In February, 19 pupils and 3 teachers travelled to Florence for a 3 night residential in Tuscany, Italy.

After a very early start Friday morning, the group arrived in Florence to begin their mathematical adventure. First on the agenda was a visit to the Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore – famed for its geometrical significance. Whilst there we climbed Giotto's Bells Tower, ascended Brunelleschi's Dome, visited the Baptistery, Cathedral Crypt and Cathedral Museum.

During the second day, pupils were treated to a visit to Museo Galileo; a museum dedicated to the scientific and mathematical advances of Galileo Galilei and other significant polymaths of the 16th Century. Here pupils learnt first-hand how Galileo's observations were developed into a mathematical model.

The group also visited the Museo Leonardo da Vinci, an interactive experience where pupils could experiment with working machines

that had been made following Leonardo da Vinci's drawings. We also managed to squeeze in a visit to the Boboli Gardens and the world famous Uffizi Gallery.

On Sunday pupils travelled to Pisa, famous for Fibonacci di Pisa, stunning Cathedral, and world renowned bell tower with unintentional lean. Whilst in Pisa the group entered the Cathedral, Baptistery and Camposanto Monumentale, and climbed the Learning Tower of Pisa.

For our final day we visited Il Giardino di Achimede. An interactive museum dedicated to all things mathematical. Here the group worked on different proofs of Pythagoras' Theorem, and were guided through the history of Mathematics; from simple circle construction to curves of quickest decent and more complex geometrical forms. Pupils discovered the real-life application of mathematics and how it has transformed the world around us.

Duke of Edinburgh's Award News

Going for GOLD

In March, 7 Sixth Formers completed their Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award practice expedition in Snowdonia in an array of weathers, from sunshine to showers and even mist!



Gold Award Presentations at Buckingham Palace

Congratulations to past and present pupils, Conor Gration, Olly Jackson, Amy Gillespie and Tom Fairclough who received their Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Awards from Princess Eugenie at Buckingham Palace in May. A fantastic achievement. Well done.

SILVER Success

Year 10 pupils put their map-reading and camping skills into practise in May in North Wales on The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Silver Assessed Expedition.



Staff Farewells!

We are wishing farewell to a number of teachers and support staff this term. We would like to wish you all good luck for the future and many thanks for your loyalty and commitment to the College.



Heather Barnes
Bursar



Helen Courtney
Infant and Junior School Teacher



Karl Gray
Head of Geology & ICT Teacher



David Meadows
Deputy Head (Academic) & History Teacher



Jan Rawlinson-Smith
Data Manager and PA to the Infant & Junior Head



Margaret Webley
Infant and Junior School Teacher

Infants and Juniors SPorTs Day



Despite the weather forecast and threat of rain, the annual Sports Day event at the Infant and Junior School not only went ahead but did so in the sunshine! Families, staff and pupils all gathered together in our magnificent grounds to enjoy an afternoon of good-natured competition between the 3 houses: Douglas, Talbot and Abbott. Whilst parents and grandparents enjoyed afternoon tea provided by the PTFA, the children competed in a variety of races including traditional races such as the sprint and long distance alongside the more imaginative dressing up race and balance the beanbag. A huge congratulations to the winning House, Douglas and to everyone who took part.



Read for Good

Read for Good's vision is for all children in the UK to be given the opportunity, space and motivation to develop their own love of reading, benefiting them throughout their lives – for good.

Some 3,000 schools are involved in the Read for Good initiative every year encouraging almost one million pupils to love reading. All of the UK's major children's hospitals now receive regular deliveries of brand new books and storyteller visits, reaching 100,000 hospitalised children each year.

Every year, our Year 7 pupils are tasked with the responsibility of raising as much money as they can for this worthy cause. The Fundraiser is launched to coincide with World Book Day, and the pupils are asked to find as many sponsors as they can. Small inter-form competitions are encouraged, with prizes given to the first form to return all of their sponsorship money, the form who raises the most money, and finally there is an overall prize which goes to the pupil who individually has raised the most money. This year, our pupils raised the grand total of £657.05, with Daisy Banks raising £102.

As part of the initiative, schools receive 20% of whatever they raise to spend on books for their own use. In the past we have been able to raise enough money to buy a full set of Goldfish Boy written by Lisa Thompson, and The Iron Man by Ted Hughes. Both of which are used as class readers in Year 7 and 8.

ESB Qualifications

May saw the fruition of a year's worth of hard work and tenacity, as all of our Key Stage 3 pupils completed their English Speaking Board exams.

ESB qualifications raise achievement and enrich learning through promoting clear, effective communication skills. Many employers seek social and problem-solving skills in their potential employees, and this qualification prepares our pupils for their future careers.

The examination consists of four components - speaking; reciting; reading; and listening and responding. The pupils are expected to prepare a presentation lasting four minutes, recite a poem which they find inspiring, read a prepared section of a book, and then listen attentively to other pupils and ask relevant questions.

For those lucky enough to witness the culmination of this hard work, the confidence and talent of the pupils is immediately apparent, Deputy Head, Mr Meadows said: "I have had the pleasure of watching some of the ESB presentations. It is really quite a challenge and there is no doubt this is of value to them. I now know more about energy, hedgehogs, tortoises and Florida!"

As Speaking and Listening remains a component part of the GCSE language examination, ESB and the skills it has taught pupils, can be credited with their success.



A Great Day's Racing

at the North-West Ski Federation Schools' Championships

In March, pupils took part in the North-West Ski Federation's Championships, many racing for the first time.

There were 140 entries in total, 91 completed the slalom race and only 23 teams finished the race.

The College entered five teams, two of which competed in the Junior School category. Oliver Giavedoni, Emma Nevett and Arabella Gaskell, Year 6 and Max Castle, Year 5 just missed out on a medal as they came 4th and the younger team of Joseph Benson, Naomi Reid and Milo Castle, Year 3 and Holly Gartside, Year 2 came 6th.

Best individual performances in the Junior category were from Phoebe Gartside, Year 6 who skied with the Senior Girls' team but just missed out on a trophy as she was 4th fastest Junior Girl with a time of 19.65 seconds. Emma Nevett was 13th which is a great result for a first race. Our fastest Junior Boy was Max Castle 18th, also in his first race, followed by Oliver Giavedoni, 22nd. Holly Gartside won a trophy as 3rd fastest Infant Girl.

The Lower Senior team of Keira Meadows, Year 9, Amy White, Year 8, Daisy Banks, Year 7 and Phoebe Gartside, Year 6 were 3rd fastest Girls' team and were the 11th fastest team to finish.

The Boys A team of Matthew Morris, Year 10, Matthew Broderick-Jones and Sam Banks, Year 9 and Daniel Broderick-Jones, Year 8 were 2nd fastest Boys' team and finished in 12th place. Dylan Wilson, Haydn James and Jake Wall, Year 7 and Robert Harries, Year 9 made up the Boys B team. They were 2nd fastest Key Stage 3 Boys' team and 19th in the final result. This was a creditable performance as three of them were racing for the first time.

Top Abbey Gate College results were posted by Keira Meadows with a time of 16.21 seconds, followed by Matthew Morris at 17.65 seconds and Matthew Broderick-Jones with 18.83 seconds.

In the afternoon all 140 skiers were divided up into teams of 4 according to the times they posted in the morning runs. They then competed in a knock-out head to head relay race which was great fun and made for some very close racing. We were not so lucky this time as only two of our skiers were in teams that made it through the first round. Jake's team were knocked out in the second round, but Sam's team reached the quarter finals only to be eliminated by the team that won the event.

It was a great day's racing and quite an experience for the ten pupils who were racing for the first time.

Stepping up to the Challenge for TRN

Congratulations to our team of runners who, after months of intensive training, completed the Chester Half Marathon in May and raised £623.61 for Trauma Response Network.

A not-for-profit service, TRN provides free therapy and support to people affected by a mass trauma event which happened in the last 90 days. Thank you to all the pupils and parents who cheered them on.



Year 9 Boys' Football Give It Their All at Chester and District Cup Final

The Year 9 boys gave a fantastic account of themselves showing great skill and determination in an enthralling Chester and District Cup Final against Christleton High School.

In an even start, the College always posed a threat with their free kicks in and around the area whereas Christleton used their superior physicality to try and impose themselves on the game.

The College fell behind after creating the clearer chances as Christian Lewis in goal held a steady nerve under increasing pressure. From a Dan Pittard-Wheeler free kick, Harry Scaiffe volleyed in a deserved equaliser after 20 minutes. By half-time the score was 1-1.

The second half was more open and Christleton started to dominate and again went ahead after a rebound off the post dropped invitingly for an onrushing forward. The College never gave up and Dan Pittard-Wheeler hit the bar from 30 yards before another goalmouth scramble saw Jack Scaiffe flick the ball into the roof of the net for another deserved equaliser.

As the final whistle loomed, Christleton were reduced to 10 men for a bad foul on the energetic Joe Bowden and Harry Scaiffe just missed with a shot from outside of the box with the last kick of the game.

Extra time saw both teams have chances and the keepers made outstanding saves until a deflected shot was headed in for Christleton to take the lead. Despite chances being created, a classy breakaway goal sealed the win for Christleton in the final minute with the game ending 4-2.



Under 14 ISA North Football Winners

A massive congratulations to the under 14s boys football team who took part in the ISA North 8-a-side competition.

The team not only won all 8 matches but didn't concede one goal! They ended the contest as clear winners after a very warm March afternoon of great football. Well done boys!

Equestrian

Squad Achieve Second Place at Flagship Equestrian Event

Our equestrian squad were out over the May Bank Holiday weekend taking part in the national schools' event at Princethorpe College in Warwickshire.

The long format horse trials event is a gruelling two days of competition. Day 1 involves a balanced and controlled dressage test and then round of show jumping, followed by a tough speed and endurance test on Day 2. This competition is unique, and requires considerable fitness training beforehand, as well as an accurate use of a stopwatch, some navigation skills, awareness of pace and recovery rates of your horse, and bravery and accuracy for the course of solid fences at the end.

Our riders were in different sections, and also in teams, and each of them came home successful.

Iyla Gallacher gained 4th individually, and a team 2nd in a mixed team in the 80cm class on her new horse that has never done a full horse trials before.

In the 90cm sections, Jodie Bennett was squeezed into 2nd place, less than 1 point behind the leader (and one of the highest dressage scores of the entire competition).

Rufus Taylor came 6th in his section and Abbey Rimmer on a young horse who has only just started competing managed a 15th place.



Our team of Jodie, Rufus and Abbey pulled off a 2nd place overall, as well as 2nd place for the best ISA schools.

Mollie Pickering's horse was sadly unable to compete, but Mollie gave huge support to the whole team, running round all weekend with buckets of water, horse equipment and refreshments for riders, and was definitely a contributory factor in the overall success.

Once again the Abbey Gate College team spirit and camaraderie of pupils and parents alike made for a great weekend. Well done and thank you to everyone.

Show Jumping Achievements



Congratulations

to Red Morgan, Year 10 who won the International Pony Grand Prix in Le Mans, France in March riding Bodyssee Des Avelines.

SPORT NEWS

Chester and District Minors

A great effort was shown by pupils at the Chester and District Minors event at Deeside Stadium!

Outstanding performances came from Ruby Wisbey (Year 8) who won both the 100m and Long Jump, Isabel Mullock (Year 8) who came first in Discus, Reece Munro (Year 7) who won the 1500m and came joint first in High Jump and Hugh Parry (Year 7) who came 6th in the 100m final. Well done to all our competitors.



Rounders Result

Congratulations to the Year 10 Rounders team who beat The King's School, Chester in a recent match. The final score was: King's 4 and a half to AGC 8.

All the girls worked tremendously well together as a fielding unit and managed to get the whole team out with 5 balls to go!

Some superb batting was also seen from both Leah Jennings and Amy Clayton.

Well done girls!

Zarak Selected for District Cricket Team



Congratulations to Zarak Khan, Year 8 who has been selected to represent Cheshire Youth Cricket in the U13 District Festival for the 2019 season.

This is a fantastic achievement. Zarak will have the opportunity to participate in a series of matches at the District Festival which includes both the new 100 ball competition and 45 over matches. The District finals week will take place in July with matchdays taking place on the 24th and 25th July.

Open Morning - Saturday 21 September
Senior School - 9.30am - 12.30pm
Infant & Junior School - 11am - 2pm

Sixth Form Information Evening
- Wednesday 16 October - 6pm - 9pm

For more information contact **01244 564170** or admissions@abbeygatecollege.co.uk

